

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for echo reduction, comprising:
detecting a start of a transmission of communication signals; and
attenuating communication signals at the start of transmission to reduce amplitudes of echo signals prior to echo cancellation.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
setting a time period; and
continuing attenuating the communication signals from the start of the communication to when the time period expires.
3. The method of claim 3, wherein the time period is a predetermined time period.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving one or more signals from one or more echo cancellers indicating that echo signals are cancelled below a threshold; and
continuing attenuating the communication signals from the start of the communication to substantially when the signals from the echo cancellers are received.
5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving one or more echo canceller signals from one or more echo cancellers; and
adjusting an attenuation value based on the echo canceller signals to attenuate the communication signals.
6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
providing for one or more attenuation values; and
attenuating the communication signals based on the attenuation values.
7. The method of claim 6, further comprising:
setting the attenuation values based on an estimated effectiveness of the echo cancellers from the start of the communication.
8. A method for echo reduction, comprising:
detecting a start of a communication; and
attenuating communication signals of the communication to reduce amplitudes of echo signals during a predetermined time period prior to echo cancellation.
9. A method for echo reduction, comprising:

100010118 "120601

detecting a start of a communication;
receiving one or more signals from one or more echo cancellers indicating that echo signals are cancelled below a threshold; and
attenuating communication signals of the communication to reduce amplitudes of echo signals based on the signals received from the echo cancellers prior to echo cancellation.

2001-0079-120001